

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ACACIA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

BY J. H. MAIDEN, F.L.S., AND R. T. BAKER, F.L.S.

ACACIA PUMILA, sp. nov.

(Plate xxviii.)

A diffuse, virgate, *pubescent* shrub under a foot high as far as seen; branches and branchlets terete. Phyllodes narrow, falcate, tapering into a recurved pungent point, narrowed at the base, trinerved, *not decurrent as in A. trinervata*, and less articulate, 6 lines long and 1 line broad, with scattered glandular hairs on nerves and edges. Stipules *prominent*, subulate, hairy, over 1 line long. Peduncles silky-hairy, short, scarcely 2 lines long, recurved, solitary, bearing a small head of not more than 10 flowers mostly 5-merous. *Calyx more than half as long as the corolla, with acute almost subulate lobes, prominently ribbed especially in the bud, ciliate.* Petals narrow, *free*, glabrous, *very* prominently ribbed, very marked in the bud. Pod 1 line broad, 12 lines long as far as seen, slightly contracted between the seed, margins thickened. Seeds oblong, longitudinal; funicle dilated from the base into a club-shaped aril and consisting of about 4 folds.

Hab.—Kenthurst (R. Helms).

Systematically this species approaches *A. trinervata*; but it is a much *smaller shrub*, with a *pubescence* on the branches and underside of phyllodes; and the phyllodes are smaller, also falcate (not rigid) with recurved points, and slightly pubescent; the peduncles are also much shorter and weaker, and there are fewer flowers in the heads. The characters of the calyx and petals are entirely distinct from those of that species.

The ovary is also hairy, and the stipules which are minute in *A. trinervata* are very distinct in this species. The phyllodes and the shortness of the peduncles give it some affinity to *A. lanigera*. It differs from both, however, in the size of the pod.

It belongs to the *Pungentes* series of Bentham, and sub-series *Plurinerves*, viz. :—Phyllodia 2- or more nerved, linear-lanceolate.

Peduncles short. Pod 4 to 5 lines broad... *A. lunigera*.

Peduncles mostly recurved, 1-2 lines long.

Pod 1 line broad *A. pumila*, n.sp.

Peduncles slender, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. Pod 1 to 2

lines broad..... *A. trinervata*.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

Acacia pumila.

Fig. 1.—Flowering twig of plant.

Fig. 2.—Fruiting twig of plant.

Fig. 3.—Bud.

Fig. 4.—Individual flower.

Figs. 5 and 6.—Bracts.

Fig. 7.—Pistil.

Fig. 8.—Phyllode magnified.

Fig. 9.—Pod.

Fig. 10.—Seed with arillus.